

BAY-DELTA URBAN COALITION

August 7, 2003

The Honorable Ken Calvert, Chair
House Water and Power Subcommittee
1522 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Grace Napolitano,
Ranking Member
House Water and Power Subcommittee
1609 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Re: HR 2828

Dear Chairman Calvert and Ranking Member Napolitano,

The Bay-Delta Urban Coalition* is pleased to support HR 2828, legislation to reauthorize the CALFED Bay-Delta Program and address water challenges across the west. As you know, the Bay-Delta Urban Coalition includes 12 public agencies that collectively supply water to 25 million Californians, and support urban economies that generate more than three-quarters of the state's \$1 trillion annual product.

The Bay-Delta Plan, developed over several years by all concerned interests, is administered through the CALFED Program. It remains California's best chance to make long-term, continuing statewide improvements to water quality, water supply and conveyance infrastructure while restoring the environment and helping recover threatened species. Urban water utilities from all regions of the State believe that successful implementation of the Bay-Delta Plan is essential if we are to avoid continued conflict and meet numerous water management challenges in a balanced manner.

It is extremely important that the program be reauthorized at the federal level this year. Although CALFED Bay-Delta Program is a model for resolving complex water resource

* The Bay Delta Urban Coalition includes: Alameda County Water District, Coachella Valley Water District, Contra Costa Water District, Central Coast Water Authority, East Bay Municipal Utility District, Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, Municipal Water District of Orange County, San Diego County Water Authority, San Francisco Public Utilities Commission, Santa Clara Valley Water District, Solano County Water Agency.

conflicts it can never realize its full potential without specific authorization and adequate funding. We appreciate your commitment to this objective.

We support the concepts contained in HR 2828, which includes both an authorization of CALFED and a competitive grants program for projects like desalination and water recycling. BDUC looks forward to working with both of you to successfully advance your bill, and continuing to work with Senators Feinstein and Boxer to develop a consensus bill that will be enacted. We are continuing to review the details of HR 2828, and may offer suggestions on specific provisions as our review continues. Please let us know how we can provide further assistance on HR 2828, and thank you for your dedication to balanced management of California's water supplies.

Sincerely,



Guy R. Martin

For the Bay-Delta Urban Coalition

cc: Senator Diane Feinstein (202-228-3954 fax)
Senator Barbara Boxer (415-956-6701 fax)
BDUC Members

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